

The Gazette



of



EXTRAORDINARY
PART I—Section 1

PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY

No. [69] NEW DELHI, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 8, 1956

MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

NOTIFICATION

New Delhi, the 8th August 1956

No. 3/3/56-Pub. (IV).—The President has heard with the deepest regret of the death on August 7, at 5.50 P.M., of Dr. Harendra Coomar Mookerjee, Governor of West Bengal. By his passing, India has lost not only a popular Governor but also a distinguished educationist, an eminent scholar, a true nationalist and a great philanthropist.

2. Born in 1877, Dr. Mookerjee had a brilliant academic career at the Presidency College, Calcutta. He joined the City College, Calcutta, as Lecturer in English in 1899; and later the Calcutta University where he rose to be the head of the department of English in 1937. While serving the University, he was connected with numerous professional, social and cultural associations in the city, being President of the All Bengal Teachers' Association from 1937—39, President of the All Bengal College and University Teachers' Association from 1938 to 1940 and President of the All India Council of Indian Christians from 1937 to 1939. He was the author of a number of books and was also Editor-in-chief of the 'Calcutta Review' for a few years. In 1937 he was elected to the West Bengal Assembly as a representative of Indian Christians. He was Vice-President of the Constituent Assembly from 1947 to 1950 and frequently presided over its deliberations during the crucial months that the Constitution was being drawn up. His wise counsel in the Assembly was unfailingly arrayed on the side of the larger interests of the nation, uninfluenced by narrow communal or sectional considerations.

3. Dr. Mookerjee was appointed Governor of West Bengal in 1951 where his simple tastes and philanthropic activities soon endeared him to the people. He devoted a good deal of his time to raising funds for the welfare of the people and himself donated generously to charitable causes.

4. In the death of Dr. Mookerjee the nation has suffered an irreparable loss. He bore the burden of his office up to the very last and will be long remembered for his devoted service to the country. Of him it can truly be said that he gave his all in the service of the people without thought of recognition or reward.

A. V. PAI, Secy.